



Also in the planning stage is a live-in program in which boys and girls will have the chance to spend a night in a historic ranch structure and participate in various ranch activities.

Many other living-history activities have been developed and will continue to be included in future plans. These include chuck-wagon and open-hearth cooking, horse shoeing, lye-soap making, shake riving, roof thatching, weaving, blacksmithing, furniture making, saddle making, and rope plaiting. The historic structures have also formed a focus for workshops on such topics as restoration technology and historical research.

Finally, the Ranching Heritage Center fulfills an academic role in the university community. The site serves as an outdoor laboratory where students majoring in architecture and museum science study restoration technology and decorative arts. In addition, students in museum science use the exhibits at the Center for special projects in research and interpretation.

The work of the Ranching Heritage Center should never become static. In future years weathered building components will be replaced, and other buildings will be added. In addition, the interpretive programs will be continually developed and renewed so that visitors will experience the ranching past as truly living history. **AW**

The Ranching Heritage Center, located on the grounds of Texas Tech University, is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Conducted tours for groups are available by prior arrangement. Further information about the Center can be obtained by writing: Ranching Heritage Center, Box 4499, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

Willard B. Robinson is professor of architecture and museum science at Texas Tech University and acting director of the Ranching Heritage Center. He is the author of Texas Public Buildings of the Nineteenth Century (1974) and American Forts: Architectural Form and Function (1977).

Echoing an era of prosperity in Texas ranching, a restored buggy awaits horse and master in the U Lazy S Carriage House, above. The two-story carriage, harness, and saddle barn was once located on a 150,000-acre spread owned by John B. Slaughter, who made his fortune in cattle around the turn of the century.